

Arms Cost Rise To Force Talks, Helms Believes

HOT SPRINGS, Va. (AP)—The staggering costs of nuclear weapons rivalry may force the United States and the Soviet Union into meaningful disarmament talks, Richard M. Helms, the Central Intelligence Agency director, has suggested to American business leaders.

Helms spoke Saturday night at a closed dinner meeting of the Business Council. Afterward he refused to tell reporters what he had said.

Newsman had appealed to the office of Herbert G. Klein, presidential coordinator for information, to persuade Helms to give a public account of his remarks. This effort proved unsuccessful, but through talks with members of the council it was learned that he made these comments:

"The future costs of adequate defense may well prove impossible for both nations to bear.

"For this reason there may be common ground for us to move ahead in this area" of arms control.

Sees Hanoi Weakening

He also was quoted as saying that North Vietnam has abandoned the idea of achieving a military victory in South Vietnam but now hopes to create a rift between the U.S. and South Vietnam ally at the Paris peace talks.

The North Vietnamese will seek to play antiwar sentiment in America to pressure the Nixon administration into concessions that would be unsuitable to the South, Helms said.

The CIA director was also quoted as saying that leadership in the Soviet Union is divided between older Communist party officials and a more youthful group and thus is having difficulty in deciding its future course.

Russia's problems are forcing her into coexistence with the West, Helms was quoted as saying, a situation which the "older generation of Bolsheviks" never would have believed possible.

Helms said the Soviet leadership appears to be "unclear in its own mind" on the development of a policy toward its own satellites and the West.

He reportedly described the Kremlin leadership as being divided between "aging party officials believing in old dogmas" and a younger group laden with "superfluous ideological bag-